

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for diagnosing the presence of lung cancer in a patient comprising:
 - (a) measuring levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue or bodily fluid obtained from the patient; and
 - (b) comparing the measured levels of LSG with levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue or bodily fluid obtained from a control, wherein an increase in measured levels of LSG in the patient versus the LSG levels in the control is associated with the presence of lung cancer.
2. A method of diagnosing metastatic lung cancer in a patient comprising:
 - (a) measuring levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from the patient; and
 - (b) comparing the measured levels of LSG with levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from a control, wherein an increase in measured LSG levels in the patient versus the LSG levels in the control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.
3. A method of staging lung cancer in a patient comprising:
 - (a) identifying a patient suffering from lung cancer;
 - (b) measuring levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from the patient; and
 - (c) comparing the measured levels of LSG with levels of LSG in a sample of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from a control, wherein an increase in the measured levels of LSG versus the levels of LSG in the control is associated with a cancer which is progressing and a decrease in the measured levels of LSG versus the levels of LSG in the control is associated with a cancer which is regressing or in remission.

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4. A method of monitoring lung cancer in a patient for the onset of metastasis comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having lung cancer that is not known to have metastasized;

(b) periodically measuring LSG levels in samples of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from the patient; and

(c) comparing the periodically measured levels of LSG with levels of LSG in cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from a control, wherein an increase in any one of the periodically measured levels of LSG in the patient versus the levels of LSG in the control is associated with a cancer which has metastasized.

5. A method of monitoring changes in a stage of lung cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having lung cancer;

(b) periodically measuring levels of LSG in samples of cells, tissue, or bodily fluid obtained from the patient; and

(c) comparing the measured levels of LSG with levels of LSG in a sample of the same cells, tissue, or bodily fluid of a control, wherein an increase in any one of the periodically measured levels of LSG versus levels of LSG in the control is associated with a cancer which is progressing in stage and a decrease in any one of the periodically measured levels of LSG versus the levels of LSG in the control is associated with a cancer which is regressing in stage or in remission.

6. The method of claim 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 wherein the LSG comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 3 or 6.

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